

Message Text

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60

ACTION ARA-17

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 RSR-01 /105 W

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R 062302 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3961

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO

USCINCSO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SANTIAGO 1495

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CI, UY, PFOR

SUBJECT: SEREGNI GETS RED CARPET

USCINCSO FOR POLAD

1. SUMMARY. SIX- DAY CHILE STAY OF URUGUAY' S FRENTE AMPLIO LEADER LIBER SEREGNI MARKED BY UP RED CARPET TREATMENT, BUSY SCHEDULE AND DELICATE SITUATION FOR CHILE' S PDC. END SUMMARY.

2. SEREGNI ARRIVED SANTIAGO MARCH 31 FROM BUENOS AIRES ACCOMPANIED BY RETIRED COL ZUFRIATEGUI AND NEWSMAN JULIO ROSIELLO. BUSY SCHEBTLE INCLUDED MEETING WITH FONMIN ALMEYDA, DINNER AT PRES ALLENDE' S HOME, BREAKFAST WITH BOLIVIA' S EXILED EX- PRES JUAN JOSE TORRES, VISITS TO STATE FARMS, STUDENT FEDERATIONS, STATE- RUN INDUSTRIES, GOVT PLANNING OFFICERS AND EMBASSIES OF NORTH KOREA, NORTH VIET- NAM, CUBA AND PRGSVN. EVENING APRIL 5 UP PARTIES MASSED FAITHFUL IN LARGEST DOWNTOWN THEATRE TO SEND SEREGNI OFF TO LIMA AFTER HE AND UP' S RAFAEL GUMUCIO EXCHANGED COMPLIMENTARY SPEECHES.

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3. SEREGNI' S PUBLIC STATEMENTS GENERALLY CENTERED ON GROWING LEVEL OF " ANTI- IMPERIALISM AND ANTI- OLIGARCHISM" WHICH CHARACTERIZE FA AND OTHER LATAM LIBERATION MOVEMENTS. HE SPECIFICALLY CALLED FOR RESIGNATION OF PRES BORDABERRY AND NEW ELECTIONS. HE ALSO ADVOCATED RESTRUCTURING OF OAS TO END ITS USE AS IMPERIALIST TOOL. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS ON ROLE OF MILITARY IN REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS (A TOPIC OF SOME SENSITIVITY IN CHILE) THE RETIRED GENERAL RESPONDED APPROVINGLY OF PERUVIAN AND PANAMANIAN MODELS. HE ADDED THAT IN HIS OWN COUNTRY THE MILITARY' S REPRESSION OF THE TUPAMAROS HAD AWAKENED THEM TO URUGUAY' S REAL PROBLEMS, HENCE MIGHT ULTIMATELY PROVE BENEFICIAL.

4. SEREGNI' S VISIT PROVIDED CHILEAN PDC WITH SOMEWHAT TICKLISH SITUATION. HE LUNCED WITH RADOMIRO TOMIC AND BERNARDO LEIGHTON (BOTH LEFTISTS WITHIN THE PARTY) AND OSVALDO OLGUIN (A " FREISTA"), BUT HE APPARENTLY DID NOT MEET WITH FREI HIMSELF. UP PRESS CONTINUALLY HIGHLIGHTED PRESENCE OF URUGUAYAN PDC IN FRENTE AMPLIO, WITH IMPLICIT AND SOMETIMES INVIDIOUSLY EXPLICIT COMPARISON TO CHILEAN PDC WHICH LEADS OPPOSITION TO CHILE' S " POPULAR" GOVERNMENT. SEREGNI' S ARRIVAL RECEIVED FRONT PAGE COVERAGE IN PDC- OWNED LA PRENSA, BUT AS HIS STAY WORE ON AND UP LIONIZATION BECAME MORE EVIDENT, LA PRENSA COVERAGE DIMINISHED NOTABLY.

5. COMMENT. SEREGNI' S VISIT RECEIVED MORE UP MEDIA COVERAGE THAN THAT OF ANY OTHER VISITOR SINCE MEXICAN PRES ECHEVERIA DURING APRIL- MAY 1972 UNCTAD CONFERENCE. THIS SUGGESTS ALLENDE SEES PARALLELS BETWEEN URUGUAYAN AND CHILEAN ELECTORAL ALLIANCES OF " PROGRESSIVE" FORCES. UPCOMING PDC CONSEJO AMPLIADO (APRIL 7- 8) MAY ALSO HAVE BEEN A FACTOR. DECON 4/6/74.
DAVIS

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